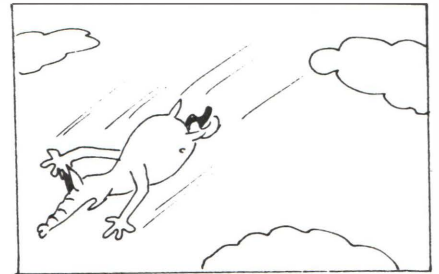


BILK NUMBER SIX

JANUARY 1986



This is BILK number 6 / January 1986 / edited by Ulrich Magin / BILK appears bi-monthly / Subscription £ 3 for Europe and \$ 5 for the USA.

#### BEHEMOTH:

- Loch Ness: 'Champ Channels' 3/1985 quotes an Australian magazine, 'Maggie's Farm' that an Australian tourist, Mr. Larry Fay, found a mysterious bone at the shore of the loch, but the Australian Museum found out that it was only a fossilized piece of a plesiosaur's leg. For more puzzling finds of animal remains in or at the loch, see my two articles in Pursuit.
- Loch Ness: The same issue of Champ Channels also reports a new sighting of Nessie: On September 15, Murdo Urquhart saw the monster near Lochend. "It looked like a fireman's helmet", he declared. This description is far too short to find out what was seen.
- Loch Ness: In September 1984 Lady Innes of Balvenie saw and photographed the monster about 600 yards from the west shore. Rip Hepple thinks, and I think he is correct, that she only saw a part of the wake of Scott II, the tourist boat.
- Lawas River/ Malaysia: In February 1985 several boatmen saw an aquatic monster in that river. It had a black monstrous head like a cow, and a neck as big as an oil drum. It also had large glowing eyes and two short front legs. There seems to be lots of local folklore about that monster, as it has its own name, tumbuh akar or qalap, and it can change itself into 44 forms, like big lobster, bird or snake. Many people have drowned at the spot where the animal is frequently seen. (Pursuit, 2nd Quarter 1985, p.92) There are many watermonsters in southern Asia, which no-one so far has tried to collect and classify.
- Congo: The Scotsman (25.X.1985, p.15) has a report about a new expedition for the African dinosaur. The leader, Bill Gibbons, a Scot, will meet Dr Aqnagna, of dinosaur fame, and pursue the monster with him. They plan to put up observation points around Lake Tele, and wait until they get a good film of the animal. The expedition was also mentioned in the last issue of Fortean Times. Maybe they'll have success, but I think too many expeditions now concentrate on Lake Tele, while sightings of dinosaurs come from nearly every part of Africa.
- Lake Champlain: The 3/1985 issue of Champ Channels also has a new update of Chessie-sightings, giving a total number of 14 for 1985. Several photos and one video-tape of the monster were taken, but all, as usual, inconclusive. Though the descriptions given are too short to decide, I'm sure some of the monsters were actually wakes.
- Loch Ness: The old aluminium factory at Foyers will be turned into a salmon breeding farm, so that Nessie gets new food. A short article about the plan was in the Scotsman, mid-November, but I do not have the exact date.

#### ISIS:

- New Ireland: Cross the ri, the New Guinea mermaid, from your list of animals to be discovered. A new expedition that was there in February 1985 managed to take underwater photographs of the beast, and it was only a dugong. There is the slight chance that while a dugong was photographed, mermaids live there nevertheless, but I'm afraid it was clear that there was nothing but dugongs there from the start.

(see Science Frontiers, No. 42; Nov-Dec 1985). I suggest mermaid expeditions go to Scotland, where there may be a real change of capturing one, even if it's only a new species of seal.

#### LEVIATHAN:

● Falmouth, Cornwall: An article in the Falmouth Packet, 27. IX.1985 says that there have been several sightings of Morgawr this summer, which were mentioned in the newspaper before, but no details. I have tried, in vain, to get these reports, and now hope that some future issue of Fortean Times will give us a summary of the monster's activities.

#### KRAKEN:

● Jean-Jacques Barloy, in his "Enquete sur le serpent de mer et les animaux mysterieux", Nr. 34, December 1985, mentions a strange find at Nice about 1970: a tentacle of 20 metres! I know of no reports of giant squids in the Mediterranean, and even if there were, their arms would never reach this length! (It would be the biggest find so far) There are many legends, traditions and reports of giant octopuses from the French Mediterranean coast, but the arm of an octopus with a length of 20 metres would be even more extraordinary!

#### MARINE FORTEANA:

John Putnam Demos: Entertaining Satan, Oxford University Press, New York 1983, p.378. That, during the time of the New England witch-trials (late 17th century) there were seen "spectral ships ('with three masts...tackling and sails, and...upon...the poop, a man standing with one hand akimbo; then arose a great smoke... and that smoke she vanished away.')" Also, upon the same time, "strange nocturnal lights ...and sudden, inexplicable noises... in the air." This was the stuff Charles Fort dreamed about, and sounds very much like the later UFO activity in the area.

#### OTHER ALIEN ANIMALS:

● British pumas: The Scotsman, 17.X.1985, p.7a, tells us about an unusual 3ft cat that was shot at Dallas/ Moray. The long searched for puma at last? It was sent to the British Museum for identification, no further news. The same paper, 22.X.1985, reports extraordinary animal mutilations.

The Observer, 1. XII. 1985, p.2h: "Beastly breeder: The beast of Ex-moor, which has killed hundreds of sheep and deer in the past two years, is on the prowl again and may have started a family. Sightings of two black cat-like animals have been reported by a park officer although there have been no recent large-scale sheep killings."

#### END!

This is the end of another BILK, the next one will appear in March 1986. My adress is still Ulrich Magin/ Stuhlbruderhofstraße 4/ 6704 Mutterstadt/ WEST GERMANY, anyone who likes can write me.

I have also for sale a list of marine monster sightings, all in all about 2000, including mermaids, seaserpents and giant cephalopods, all with exact date, place, observer and source, and a list of Nessie sightings, some 1000 now, in the same way, One costs £3, or \$ 5, and both together £5 or \$ 8.

From October 1986 to March 1987 I will live and study in Dublin, but I will tell you how I intent to keep on with BILK. However, anyone in Ireland may visit me there.

P.S If you want both list, why don't you send me a copy of 'Big-foot casebook' (the only book you wrote that I do not have) & I send you the rest of the money later? I would be happy if this was possible. Do you have any news on Morgawr or the Scottish puma? All the best Wing